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A COUNTRY CHURCH

In September 1953 Chu Chi-ming, pastor of the Church of Christ in China country church in Iting, reported on the first six months of work in the church since they had been allowed to re-open after land redistribution. He reports the return of all church property as though it was an act of generosity on the part of the government. They had to register the church as a social organization, and turn in a complete list of their members. The church has 298 members, rated socially as follows:

Poor peasants	202
Middle peasants	94
Small landlords	2

In these first six months the church had received from its members a total of Yuan 5,780,000 and had carried through several repairs to the property. They had also added 40 benches, each long enough to seat seven persons. He states that the number of worshippers had increased so much since the reopening that the original number of benches was not enough, and many of the worshippers had to stand or sit on the floor. So they decided to build the benches themselves. Different families subscribed the wood for one or two benches each, and then they got together and made the benches, and thus the seating capacity has been increased by 280.

THE CASE OF THE RED AND BLACK NOTICES

Communist officials in Meih sien, Szechuan, were in a dither last year over the case of the red and black notices. Chin Yu-ch'eng, characterized as a counter-revolutionary, bandit and murderer, was given a prison sentence. When the "black notice" of his sentence was put up on bulletin boards, it was found to be side by side with a "red notice" in which the same Chin Yu-ch'eng was honored as a model worker. Further investigation showed that when officials gave him the status of model worker they knew all about his criminal record, a record which concerned activities of a few years previous. The Peking People's Daily, in commenting on the case, states that it has caused serious damage to the prestige of the Party and the Government. The officials concerned have been disciplined and "have made self-criticism before the masses".

CHRISTIAN LITERATURE IN HONG KONG

The Autumn 1954 catalogue of the Hong Kong Council on Christian Literature for Overseas Chinese (CCLOC) shows a steadily increasing coverage of literature needs for overseas Chinese Christians, especially in the fields of children's literature, church music, and theological volumes. All the items in the Nanking Seminary Music Series have been reprinted. Among new works available, the first two volumes of the Christian Classics Library was announced, a volume of Archbishop Temple's writings, and the first of three volumes of Calvin. These are the first two of a total series of 56 volumes, outlined by a committee of American theologians headed by Issued about 20 times a year to keep mission boards and missionaries informed on Christian work in China. ANNUAL RATES: Domestic, \$2.00; Overseas, Firstclass \$4.00, Secondclass \$3.00. Airmail \$5.00 in 15 cent zone, \$7.00 in 25 cent zone. Please send payments as due.

Dr. H. P. Van Dusen of Union Theological Seminary, and in process of being translated into Chinese by Nanking Theological Seminary. The work is being done by Christopher Tang, Moses Hsu and F. P. Jones at the Nanking Theological Seminary office at Drew University, Madison, N.J. The next volumes of the series, soon to be completed, are Wesley's Journal and a reference book of all the great creeds and confessions of the Christian church. Each volume will be 300,000 or more words in Chinese.

The whole series of Woodbrooke Tracts on Religion and Morals, formerly published in Shanghai by the CLS, has been reprinted.

THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION IN SOUTHEAST ASIA

The Board of Founders of Nanking Theological Seminary met in New York on January 21, primarily to consider plans for a conference on theological education. Present tentative plans are looking forward to holding this conference in Chiangmai, Thailand in February, 1956. The project is under the sponsorship of the World Council of Churches, the International Missionary Council, and Nanking Theological Seminary. Planning for the Conference is in the hands of R. B. Manikam of India, acting for the first two of the above three organizations, and C. Stanley Smith, President of Trinity College, Singapore, representing the third organization. The Conference will be composed of representatives from the churches and theological institutions of Southeast Asia, representatives of the sponsoring organizations and special consultants.

The Board also approved a grant of \$50,000 for the erection of a building for Trinity College, the union seminary in Singapore.

MISSIONARY NEWS

Mrs. Samuel H. Moffett, formerly in the Presbyterian Mission in Nanking, died at her home in Princeton, N.J., on January 17. Her husband has been acting as Personnel Secretary for the Presbyterian Board, and also teaching Missions in Princeton Theological Seminary.

CHURCH NEWS

Y. T. Wu, at a meeting on December 29 of the Sino-Soviet Friendship Association, stated that he had visited the Soviet Union eight times since liberation. On December 15 he joined with Chia Chen-min, Chairman of the Catholic Reformation Movement in Peking, in condemning the American treaty with Formosa.

Bishop Robin Chen of the Episcopal Church issued a Christmas message last month in which he said, "In Shanghai the Christmas celebration program has been so crowded this year that the Moore Memorial Church has had to hold three extra Christmas services. Chinese Christians are enjoying complete freedom of religion as provided for in the constitution. Besides Christmas and Easter celebrations, there are summer and winter gatherings of Christian youth in Shanghai, Peking, Wuhan, Canton, Amoy, Nanking and a host of other places. The Nanking Union Theological Seminary in Nanking and the Yenching Union Theological Seminary in Peking are teeming with new life." He referred to his election as a deputy to the National People's Congress as "the happiest moment of my life". "Enjoying full political rights, many Chinese Christians have been elected people's deputies to the People's Congresses in various parts of the country and the National People's Congress," he added. In conclusion he called on Chinese Christians to "pay tribute to peace-loving Christians and all other people in the world for their selfless and unrelenting struggle for world peace."

Rev. Marcus Cheng, 71-year old preacher and President of Chungking Theological Seminary spoke over Radio Peking to overseas Christians on December 23. He emphasized that religious freedom in the new China is a reality, and said, "To compare with the conditions of churches in London and New York as I remember, I don't think we have anything to complain of. On the contrary, here in Shanghai for instance, in this year 1954, we have had a considerable number of converts and new members received into the church through baptism." Evidently feeling that the Three-self Movement had been misunderstood overseas, he went on to explain that all it means is to harmonize "patriotism and Christian faith". He concluded his broadcast by saying, "A merry Christmas and a happy new year, and peace and good will to all people on earth."

At the time of the broadcast he was in Peking as a deputy to the National People's Congress.

In our list of the Peking Conference delegates in the December 20 Bulletin, Huang P'ei-nin was identified as Vice-president of Chungking Theological Seminary. A correspondent has added further information about him. He is from Foochow, and a graduate of the Methodist Anglo-Chinese College there. He and his brother Huang P'ei-yung come from a non-Christian family. The latter, after having been a YMCA Secretary for several years, became a pastor in the Methodist East China Conference. They seem both to be bearing effective witness to their Christian faith.

In Huangmei County of Hupeh, the Kunglung village church reports that ten inquirers have become church members during the past two years.

Isaac Wei was expelled from the True Jesus Church in Chiehhsien Shansi in November 1953. A government representative was present at the meeting. They agreed that he had used his religious authority to deceive the people, and had committed many sins, and he was accordingly expelled from the church.

President Ting Kuang-hsun of Nanking Theological Seminary has written a pamphlet or article on "Preach the Gospel and Strengthen Your Body". I have not seen the article, but K'ung Ch'ing-ling was much impressed by it, and reported his impressions in the April 26 Tien Feng last year. It answered for him the question of how he could cooperate with Communists who do not believe in God. The latter are working in a positive way for the reconstruction of China, our mother country, and to that extent we should work together with them. Then, on the basis of "standing together with the people" we will be in a position to preach to the people of China what we believe. It is impossible to tell from the article how much of this is K'ung's ideas and how much is President Ting's, but it is probably a more or less common line of reasoning - or rationalization - in Christian circles in China today.

SCHOOL NEWS

Among the new schools in Shenyang, Manchuria, are the Northeast Conservatory of Music, the Northeast Athletic Institute, and the Northeast Drama School.

Harbin reports new buildings for the Harbin Medical College, the Harbin Foreign Languages Institute and the Harbin Engineering Institute.

Dr. Y. P. Mei, formerly Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at Yenching University and acting President during the refugee war years in Changtu, is this year Visiting Lecturer in the Department of Philosophy at Princeton University.

Twelve new colleges were established in China in 1954, six of them being teachers' colleges. This brings the total number of higher educational institutions up to 188. College enrolment was 258,000, nearly 30% of whom came from worker or peasant families. The total number of students in teachers' colleges was 53,000, second only to the enrolment in engineering colleges.

GENERAL NEWS

The Chinese Communist Government is issuing another series of National Economic Construction Bonds in 1955, totalling six million ^{million} Yuan, and paying four per cent interest.

Peking now has 25 bus routes, carrying an average of 360,000 passengers daily.

A British newspaper in Hong Kong summed up recent archaeological discoveries in China in the following editorial: "Dr. Hsia Nai, who has just returned to Peking from Sian and Loyang, famous in the Chou and Tang dynasties, says that recent investigations have proved that they are of much older standing than formerly believed. A neolithic settlement has been unearthed at Sian, and the relics, which included millet and stone millet-cutters, indicate that agriculture was well advanced even then. Houses with hearths at the center and surrounded by earthen walls